संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरिधर गोमांगो): (क) इलाहाबाद में 152 सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन हैं, ये सभी नगर निगम के अन्तर्गत आते हैं।

(ख) नए खोले गए सार्वजनिक टेलीफोनों की संख्या नीचे दी गई है :–

1986-87	16
1987-88	11
चालू वर्ष के दौरान	2

सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन 12/16, मयर रोड, इलाहाबाद और 591, मुमफोर्ड गंज, इलाहाबाद में खोले गए हैं।

(ग) निम्नलिखित स्थानों पर 4 नए सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन खोलने का प्रस्ताव बनाया गया है :–

1. तारागंज रेलवे स्टेशन
2. प्रयाग घाट रेलवे स्टेशन
3. प्रयाग रेलवे स्टेशन, और
4. सूबेदारगंज रेलवे स्टेशन।

Import of oil rigs

2921. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been importing oil rigs from foreign countries;

(fo) if so, what are the details of such imports for the last three years; and

(c) what steps have been taken to manufacture of oil rigs indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ONGC have imported 13 land rigs from companies in USA, USSR and Romania during the last three years.

(c) Facilities for manufacturing land rigs have been developed at BHEL, Hyderabad and for offshore rigs at Maza-gon Dacks Ltd., Bombay and Hindustan Shipyards Ltd., Vizag.

Diversification in Business by the Pecrlcre General Finance and Investment Company

2922. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company is trying to close its main and original business of small savings and diversify into various fields in the name of efficient management;

(b) if so, what are the fields in which the company is tryine to make a dent;

(c) whether the company has sought permission from the Government to do so and whether the permission has been granted; and

(d) whether Government are aware that the company has neither the experience nor the expertise to start a venture in new areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM): (a) to (d) Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indo-Soviet Joint venture to manufacture automobiles

2923. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indo-Soviet joint venture is proposed to be set up in India to manufacture automobiles and for developing transport facilities; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?